

Initial email from Merle J Aleshire, PhD sent on 8/25/11:

Randy,

The 5th Draft of the Delta Plan is disappointing. There are no specifics and seem to imply that years and years of more studies are being recommended.

It is time to get specific as to what should be done to meet co-equal goals or it will just be a smoke screen for the environmentalist to do more studies. For example:

1. Describe how much and what kind of farming is to be retained.
2. Describe what must be done to the levees.
3. Describe what residential changes, if any, must be done.
4. Describe what, if anything, must be done to the infrastructure.
5. Describe specifically what native fish are to be accommodated.
6. Describe specifically what is to be done, if anything, with invasive species.
7. Describe specifically other stressors and what must be done.
8. Select a preferred method to get water through or around the Delta.
9. Define how much water will transferred through or around the Delta.
10. Describe specific recommended surface storage projects.
11. etc. etc.

Make the environmental community 'fish or cut bait'. Otherwise, co-equal goals is nothing more than a PR statement. Get specific or the Stewardship Council efforts will be another waste of time and simply promote more studies.

Best Regards, Merle

Response email from Randy Fiorini sent on 9/1/11:

Hi Merle,

Attached you will find my response to your questions. We received a very good letter from Gary Arant that cited several concerns and offered some recommendations. I hope you find my response useful. Thanks again for your interest.

Randy Fiorini

Attachment in email from Randy Fiorini sent on 9/1/11(the letter addressed to “Randy” was from Merle Aleshire – the items in red are responses from Randy Fiorini):

Randy,

The 5th Draft of the Delta Plan is disappointing. There are no specifics and seem to imply that years and years of more studies are being recommended.

It is time to get specific as to what should be done to meet co-equal goals or it will just be a smoke screen for the environmentalist to do more studies. For example:

1. Describe how much and what kind of farming is to be retained.

The task before the DSC is to address water supply reliability for California. That includes addressing policies that help meet the reliability needs for Agriculture, Urban and the Delta Ecosystem. Market forces and world economic conditions will largely determine which crops will survive and where they will be grown. Unfortunately providing adequate supplies of water will not guarantee the financial success of every farm in every area.

2. Describe what must be done to the levees.

The recommendations in the 5th Draft include ER R4, RR R1, RR R2, RR R3, RR R4

3. Describe what residential changes, if any, must be done.

The policies and recommendations in the 5th Draft include WR P1, WR R1, WR R2, and WR R3

4. Describe what, if anything must be done to the infrastructure.

The recommendations in the 5th Draft include ER R8, WR R6, and WR R7. Additionally you can find narrative about this subject on page 121, lines 35-40 and pages 122 and 123

5. Describe specifically what native fish are to be accommodated.

Federal and state laws concerning environment and species largely drive this issue. A narrative about the subject can be found on page 128, lines 1-8 in the 5th Draft

6. Describe specifically what is to be done, if anything, with invasive species.

The recommendations in the 5th Draft include ER P5, ER R6, and ER R7

7. Describe specifically other stressors and what must be done.

The recommendations in the 5th draft include ER R7 and ER R6

Additionally you can find narrative about this subject on page 107, lines 24-34 and page 108, lines 1-10 plus Appendix E

8. Select a preferred method to get water through or around the Delta.

The policies and recommendations in the 5th draft include WR R6, ER P1, WR R7 and ER R8. Additional information about the DSC's role can be found in Appendix A

9. Define how much water will be transferred through or around the Delta.

There are no recommendations or policies in the 5th draft that specifically address this question. You can find narrative about the subject on page 5, lines 27-32, page 20, lines 3-16, page 98, lines 1-41 and page 99, lines 1-2

10. *Describe specific recommended surface storage projects.*

The recommendations in the 5th draft include WR R6 and WR R7

11. *etc. etc.*

Make the environmental community 'fish or cut bait'. Otherwise, co-equal goals is nothing more than a PR statement. Get specific or the Stewardship Council efforts will be another waste of time and simply promote more studies.

Best Regards, Merle

Reply to:

Reply to Merle J Aleshire, PhD

Send